What’s My Name?

Here’s a fun, active way to a quick review, get students up and moving, and reinforce learning.

# How it works:

1. Give each student a stick-on name tag, but don’t write the student’s name on it. Instead, use content from a unit of study. For example, give each student a name tag with a math fact written on it. The tag might say “8 x 8”. Don’t include the “64”.
2. Have the students walk around the room learning the new “names” of their classmates. If Aaron’s name tag is the one that says, “8 x 8”, then Aaron’s new name is “64”. Have students call one another by their new names for as long as you think it’s appropriate.
3. This can also give you an opportunity to do some one-on-one teaching while everyone else is engaged in the activity. Let’s say you know that a student really doesn’t know his/her math facts. You get in the game by wearing several name tags with those math facts that s/he doesn’t know. You make sure that s/he has to call you by all your names. You also prompt him/her as necessary.

# Variation:

This works for other areas of the curriculum too. In science, when the class is studying animal groups, for example, a student’s name tag might read “shrimp”. That means her new name is “Anthropod”.

By using this strategy, you’ve engaged all your students and given them a chance to review content in a physically active way. At the same time, you’ve been able to give a little extra coaching to a student who needs it.